

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Active~~ An active charcoal, characterized by:
 - a total pore volume of greater than or equal to 1.00 ml/g, ~~preferably of greater than or equal to 1.20 ml/g,~~
 - a bed strength (BS), measured according to a bulk crushing test from Shell, of greater than or equal to 1 MPa (10 bar) ~~and preferably of greater than or equal to 1.5 MPa (15 bar) and advantageously of greater than or equal to 1.7 MPa (17 bar),~~ and
 - a BET specific surface of greater than or equal to 500 m²/g, ~~preferably of greater than or equal to 700 m²/g.~~
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Active~~ An active charcoal according to Claim 1, characterized in that it exhibits:
 - a micropore volume, measured by nitrogen adsorption, of greater than or equal to 0.20 ml/g, ~~preferably of greater than or equal to 0.30 ml/g.~~
 - a mesopore volume, measured by nitrogen adsorption and mercury intrusion, of greater than or equal to 0.15 ml/g, ~~preferably of greater than or equal to 0.20 ml/g,~~ and
 - a macropore volume, measured by mercury intrusion, of greater than or equal to 0.40 ml/g, ~~preferably of greater than or equal to 0.50 ml/g.~~
3. (Currently Amended) ~~Active~~ An active charcoal according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that its~~ having an iron content by weight is of less than or equal to 2000 ppm, ~~preferably less than or equal to 1000 ppm, advantageously less than or equal to 500 ppm and more advantageously still less than or equal to 300 ppm.~~
4. (Currently Amended) ~~Active~~ An active charcoal according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that its~~ having a bulk density is of between 0.20 and 0.50, ~~preferably between 0.3 and 0.4.~~

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Active~~ An active charcoal according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that it's~~ having an ash content is of less than or equal to 10%, ~~preferably less than or equal to 7%,~~ of the total weight of the active charcoal.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Active~~ An active charcoal according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that it's~~ having a particle size is such that the charcoal particles are retained by a sieve with a mesh size of 0.2 mm, ~~preferably 0.4 mm and advantageously 0.6 mm, and pass through a sieve with a mesh size of 5 mm, preferably 2 mm,~~ and are provided in the form of strands, ~~preferably in the form of granules or beads.~~

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Active~~ An active charcoal according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that it is based on~~ produced from fruit stones, ~~preferably based on~~ or olive marc.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ A process for the impregnation of active charcoal as defined in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~ Claim 1:

a) with an aqueous solution of a metal complex chosen from cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc and vanadium phthalocyanines, metal complexes of polyaminoalkylpolycarboxylic acid, ~~such as~~ complexes of EDTA or of one of its salts, ~~preferably~~ cobalt phthalocyanine, and optionally one or more promoting or doping additives, and

b) by impregnation with a basic solution, ~~for example based on sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide or ammonia.~~

9. (Previously Presented) Catalyst for the oxidation of mercaptans to disulphides, characterized in that it is composed of at least one metal complex, such as a cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc or vanadium phthalocyanine, preferably cobalt phthalocyanine, or one metal complex of polyaminoalkylpolycarboxylic acid attached to an active charcoal as defined in Claim 1.

10. (Previously Presented) Catalyst for the oxidation of mercaptans according to Claim 9, characterized in that it is capable of being obtained according to the impregnation process of this invention, it being understood that the impregnation stage b) can take place during the reaction for the oxidation of the mercaptans.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of~~ In a catalyst comprising a support and catalytic metals, the improvement wherein the support is an active charcoal as defined in Claim 1 as catalyst support, in particular for the oxidation of cyanide present in water or the synthesis of glyphosate.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of an active charcoal as defined in Claim 1 in~~ In processes for purification and/or separation by selective adsorption in a liquid phase and/or in a gas phase (decolouration of liquid foodstuffs, water treatment, air treatment, recovery of solvents, and the like) the improvement wherein said liquid or gas is contacted with a charcoal as defined in claim 1.

14. (New) An active charcoal according to Claim 2, having an iron content by weight of less than or equal to 2000 ppm.

15. (New) An active charcoal according to Claim 14, having a bulk density of between 0.20 and 0.50

16. (New) An active charcoal according to claim 15, having a total pore volume of greater than or equal to 1.20 ml/g, a bed strength (BS) greater than or equal to 1.5 MPa (15 bar) and a BET specific surface greater than 700 m²/g.

17. (New) An active charcoal according to claim 1, having a micropore volume greater than or equal to 0.30 ml/g, a mesopore volume greater than or equal to 0.20 ml/g and a macropore volume greater than or equal 0.50 ml/g.
18. (New) An active charcoal according to claim 16, having a micropore volume greater than or equal to 0.30 ml/g, a mesopore volume greater than or equal to 0.20 ml/g and a macropore volume greater than or equal 0.50 ml/g.
19. (New) An active charcoal according to claim 1, having an iron content less than or equal to 300 ppm.
20. (New) An active charcoal according to claim 18, having an iron content less than or equal to 300 ppm.
21. (New) An active charcoal according to claim 20, having a bulk density between 0.3 and 0.4.
22. (New) An impregnated active charcoal produced by the process of claim 8.